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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/568,495	02/15/2006	Jacques Yves Gauthier	MC091YP	1199
210 7590 02/13/2007 MERCK AND CO., INC P O BOX 2000 RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			EXAMINER YOUNG, SHAWQUIA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1626	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
31 DAYS		02/13/2007	PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/568,495

Applicant(s)

GAUTHIER ET AL.

Examiner

Shawquia Young

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Claims 1-13 are currently pending in this application.

#### ***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

#### ***Lack of Unity Requirement***

Claims 1-13 are drawn to more than one inventive concept (as defined by PCT Rule 13), and accordingly, a restriction is required according to the provision of PCT Rule 13.2.

PCT Rule 13.2 states that the international application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept (requirement of unity of invention).

PCT Rule 13.2 states unity of invention referred to in Rule 13.1 shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features.

Annex B, Part 1 (b), provides that "special technical features" mean those technical features, which, as a whole, define a contribution over the prior art.

Annex B, Part 1 (e), provides combinations of different categories of claims and states:

"The method for determining unity of invention under Rule 13 shall be construed as permitting, in particular, the inclusion of any one of the following combinations of claims of different categories in the same international application:

(i) in addition to an independent claim for a given product, an independent claims for a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an independent claim for use of the said product, or

(ii) in addition to an independent claim for a given process, an independent claim for an apparatus or means specially designed for carrying out the said process, or

(iii) in addition to an independent claim for a given product, and independent claim for a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an independent claim for an apparatus or means specially designed for carrying out the said process,..."

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

Due to the numerous variables in the claims, e.g.  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^a$ ,  $R^b$ ,  $D$ ,  $E$ ,  $G$ ,  $n$ ,  $m$  etc. and their widely divergent meanings, a precise listing of inventive groups cannot be made. *The following groups are exemplary:*

**Group I** claim(s) 1-10 and 12 (in part), are drawn to products of the formula represented in claim 1 wherein:  $R^1$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl which can be optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as defined in claim 1;  $D$  is aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $E$  is

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aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; Each **G** is independently is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups; **R**<sup>5</sup> is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, and heterocyclyl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl; **R**<sup>a</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR<sup>5</sup>; **R**<sup>b</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR<sup>5</sup>; **m** is an integer from 0 to 2 and **n** is an integer from 1 to 3, classified in various subclasses in class 558.

**Group II** 1-10 and 12 (in part), are drawn to products of the formula represented in claim 1 wherein: **R**<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH(R<sup>a</sup>)(R<sup>b</sup>), OR<sup>5</sup>, -N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **R**<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH(R<sup>a</sup>)(R<sup>b</sup>), OR<sup>5</sup>, -N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; or **R**<sup>1</sup> and **R**<sup>2</sup> can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl which can be optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **R**<sup>3</sup> and **R**<sup>4</sup> are as defined in claim 1; **D** is aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **E** is heteroaryl with no nitrogen atoms which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; Each **G** is independently is as defined in claim 1

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excluding heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups;  $R^5$  is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl, heteroaryl( $C_{1-4}$ )alkyl, and heterocyclyl( $C_{1-4}$ )alkyl;  $R^a$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and  $-OR^5$ ;  $R^b$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and  $-OR^5$ ;  $m$  is an integer from 0 to 2 and  $n$  is an integer from 1 to 3, classified in various subclasses in class 549.

**Group III** claim(s) 1-10 and 12 (in part), are drawn to products of the formula represented in claim 1 wherein:  $R^1$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl which can be optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as defined in claim 1;  $D$  is aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $E$  is 5-membered heteroaryl with one or more heteroatoms wherein at least one is nitrogen which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; Each  $G$  is independently is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups;  $R^5$  is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl, heteroaryl( $C_{1-4}$ )alkyl, and

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heterocyclyl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl; **R<sup>a</sup>** is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR<sup>5</sup>; **R<sup>b</sup>** is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and -OR<sup>5</sup>; **m** is an integer from 0 to 2 and **n** is an integer from 1 to 3, classified in various subclasses in class 548.

**Group IV** 1-10 and 12 (in part), are drawn to products of the formula represented in claim 1 wherein: **R<sup>1</sup>** is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH(R<sup>a</sup>)(R<sup>b</sup>), OR<sup>5</sup>, -N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **R<sup>2</sup>** is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl, -SR<sup>5</sup>, -SOR<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, -SO<sub>2</sub>CH(R<sup>a</sup>)(R<sup>b</sup>), OR<sup>5</sup>, -N(R<sup>5</sup>)<sub>2</sub> or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; or **R<sup>1</sup>** and **R<sup>2</sup>** can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a C<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl which can be optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **R<sup>3</sup>** and **R<sup>4</sup>** are as defined in claim 1; **D** is aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; **E** is 6-membered heteroaryl with only 1 heteroatom that is nitrogen which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; Each **G** is independently is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups; **R<sup>5</sup>** is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl, and heterocyclyl(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkyl; **R<sup>a</sup>** is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents

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independently selected from the group consisting of halo and  $-OR^5$ ;  $R^b$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and  $-OR^5$ ;  $m$  is an integer from 0 to 2 and  $n$  is an integer from 1 to 3, classified in various subclasses in class 546.

**Group V** claim(s) 1-10 and 12 (in part), are drawn to products of the formula represented in claim 1 wherein:  $R^1$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl wherein said alkyl and alkenyl groups are optionally substituted with one to six halo,  $C_{3-6}$  cycloalkyl,  $-SR^5$ ,  $-SOR^5$ ,  $-SO_2R^5$ ,  $-SO_2CH(R^a)(R^b)$ ,  $OR^5$ ,  $-N(R^5)_2$  or aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  can be taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached to form a  $C_{3-8}$  cycloalkyl which can be optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as defined in claim 1;  $D$  is aryl which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1;  $E$  is a 6-membered heteroaryl with more than one heteroatom wherein at least one is nitrogen which may be monocyclic or bicyclic is optionally substituted as defined in claim 1; Each  $G$  is independently is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl and heterocyclyl groups;  $R^5$  is as defined in claim 1 excluding heteroaryl, heteroaryl( $C_{1-4}$ )alkyl, and heterocyclyl( $C_{1-4}$ )alkyl;  $R^a$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo and  $-OR^5$ ;  $R^b$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl which is optionally substituted with one to three



compounds claimed contain \_\_\_\_\_ excluding the variables, which does not define a contribution over the prior art. The compounds vary in classification and when taken as a whole result in vastly different compounds. Accordingly, the vastness

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of the claimed subject matter and the complications in understanding the claimed subject matter imposes a burden on any examination of the claimed subject matter.

### ***Advisory of Rejoinder***

The following is a recitation of M.P.E.P. 821.04, Rejoinder:

Where product and process claims drawn to independent and distinct inventions are presented in the same application, applicant may be called upon under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect claims to either the product or process. See MPEP § 806.05(f) and § 806.05(h). The claims to the nonelected invention will be withdrawn from further consideration under 37 CFR 1.142. See MPEP § 809.02(c) and § 821 through § 821.03. However, if applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined.

Where the application as originally filed discloses the product and the process for making and/or using the product, and only claims directed to the product are presented for examination, when a product claim is found allowable, applicant may present claims directed to the process of making and/or using the patentable product by way of amendment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121. In view of the rejoinder procedure, and in order to expedite prosecution, applicants are encouraged to present such process claims, preferably as dependent claims, in the application at an early stage of prosecution. Process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116. Process claims which do not depend from or otherwise include the limitations of the patentable product will be withdrawn from consideration, via an election by original presentation (see MPEP § 821.03). Amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312. Process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed product claim and which meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112 may be entered.

Where product and process claims are presented in a single application and that application qualifies under the transitional restriction practice pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(b), applicant may either: (A) elect the invention to be searched and examined and pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(s) and have the additional inventions searched and examined under 37 CFR 1.129(b)(2); or (B) elect the invention to be searched and examined and not pay the additional fee (37 CFR 1.129(b)(3)). Where no additional fee is paid, if the elected invention is

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directed to the product and the claims directed to the product are subsequently found patentable, process claims which either depend from or include all the limitations of the allowable product will be rejoined. If applicant chooses to pay the fees to have the additional inventions searched and examined pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(b)(2) even if the product is found allowable, applicant would not be entitled to a refund of the fees paid under 37 CFR 1.129(b) by arguing that the process claims could have been rejoined. 37 CFR 1.26(a) states that "[T]he Commissioner may refund any fee paid by mistake or in excess of that required. A change of purpose after the payment of a fee...will not entitle a party to a refund of such fee..." In this case, the fees paid under 37 CFR 1.129(b) were not paid by mistake nor paid in excess, therefore, applicant would not be entitled to a refund. In the event of rejoinder, the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. If the application containing the rejoined claims is not in condition for allowance, the subsequent Office action may be made final, or, if the application was already under final rejection, the next Office action may be an advisory action. Form paragraphs 8.42 through 8.44 should be used to notify applicant of the rejoinder of process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowable product claim.

In the event of rejoinder, the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104 - 1.106. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. If the application containing the rejoined claims is not in condition for allowance, the subsequent Office action may be made final, or, if the application was already under final rejection, the next Office action may be an advisory action.

The following is a recitation from paragraph five, "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. §103(b)" (1184 TMOG 86(March 26, 1996)):

"However, in the case of an elected product claim, rejoinder will be permitted when a product claim is found allowable and the withdrawn process claim **depends from or otherwise includes all the limitations of** an allowed product claim. Withdrawn process claims not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined." (emphasis added)

Therefore, in accordance with M.P.EP 821.04 and *In re Ochiai*, 71 F.3d 1565, 37 USPQ 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1995), rejoinder of product claims with process claims commensurate in scope with the allowed product claims will occur following a finding

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that the product claims are allowable. Until, such time, a restriction between product claims and process claims is deemed proper. Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to maintain either dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

#### ***Telephone Inquiry***

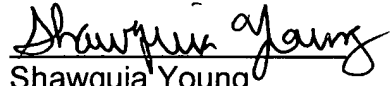
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawquia Young whose telephone number is 571-272-9043. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM-4:30PM.

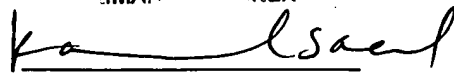
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on 571-272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
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